

REMARKS:

This Preliminary Amendment is being concurrently filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for Application Serial No. 09/630,711. The RCE and the Preliminary Amendment are being filed in response to the final Office Action mailed August 24, 2005. Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, 1, 5, 13 and 24 No new matter has been introduced in this Amendment.

Response to the Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103(a)

Claims 1, 5, 13 and 24 have been amended in accordance with the discussions conducted at the Interview, dated November 21, 2005, and reflected in the Interview Summary of that date. The Interview Summary indicates (1) the preamble of the claims should be amended to indicate the structure implementing the method, and (2) the claims should include the feature of the “distribution of the POW as a POW.”

Accordingly, the preamble of Claims 1, 5, 13 and 24 has been amended to describe the structure implementing the method...” as one or more processors in communication with one or more memory devices having embodied therein stored programs for performing the method”. The structure is described in the specification at page 16, lines 18-21 and shown in Figures 1A and B.

Claims 1, 5, 13 and 24 have been further amended to describe the feature of “ distributing the POW as a POW”. The Interview Summary states ... ” Amendment of claims to include distribution of POW as a POW to overcome the cited art.” Accordingly, such amendment of claims 1, 5, 13 and 24 overcomes the cited art. In addition, Applicants have distinguished the cited art in the response to the final office action, dated November 23, 2005, which response is fully incorporated herein.

CONCLUSION:

Applicants respectfully submit the discussion at the Interview conducted November 21, 2005 have been implanted and the cited art has been overcome. Entry of the Preliminary Amendment, allowance of the claims and passage to issue of the application are requested.

AUTHORIZATIONS:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. JAKOBSSON 23-5 (3037-4196). A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. JAKOBSSON 23-5 (3037-4196). A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 23, 2005

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